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It covers (1) U.S. Federal government documents, especially those from executive branch departments and those from the Congressional branch - - Committees, the U.S. General Accounting Office, and the Congressional Budget Office; (2) policy briefs from major private think tanks, especially those in Washington; and (3) major reports from national professional associations. A few new high quality, high relevance think tank-sponsored books are also listed.

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Reports

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ASIA'S CLOUDED HORIZON – PART I. YaleGlobal. Marvin Ott. September 27, 2010.

Leading Asia's growing power and influence, China takes an increasingly assertive stance on historical territorial disputes. The study examines foreign-policy conflicts in Asia and the potential for cooperation among economic giants, China, U.S. and Japan. Marvin Ott describes renewed U.S. interest in Southeast Asia. Staking claims to most of the waters, including busy trade lanes, China expects deference from its neighbors and rejects U.S. involvement, explains Asian policy specialist Marvin Ott. Ott warns that ASEAN nations fail to unite on many issues, but one point of agreement stands firm: the fear of being forced to choose between two big powers.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/asias-clouded-horizon-part-i>

[HTML format, various paging].

Item#2

ASIA'S CLOUDED HORIZON - PART II. YaleGlobal. Yoichi Funabashi. September 29, 2010.

With new emerging economies and dispersion of power, the world can no longer depend on one or a handful of superpowers to manage problems, more so when small ones reduce the cooperation required for resolving global challenges. A recent example is the diplomatic spat between China and Japan after a fishing captain struck a patrol vessel near islands with disputed ownership. Yoichi Funabashi analyzes three impending challenges: North Korea succession and stability; maritime security; and declining supplies of energy and water.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/asias-clouded-horizon-part-ii>

[HTML format, various paging].

Item#3

CHALLENGES FOR A SQUABBLING EUROPE – PART I. YaleGlobal. Katinka Barysch. September 22, 2010.

Even after the devastation of the Second World War, bitterly fought by Europeans, the continent united in rebuilding its economy. Now, as internal challenges combine with external competition, Europe struggles to find a common vision for economic initiatives, suggests this series. The failure of European leaders to reform governance could endanger the euro as single currency, notes the author. Member nations could vigorously enforce fiscal rules and coordinate macroeconomic policies; nations that rely on exports can't expect all nations to be savers. Europe lacks leaders who can rally citizens and member nations behind a common agenda for economic reform, euro rescue and other initiatives that can keep crises at bay and solidify integration.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/challenges-squabbling-europe-part-i>

[HTML format, various paging].

Item#4

CHALLENGES FOR A SQUABBLING EUROPE – PART II. YaleGlobal. Francois Godement. September 24, 2010.

European Union ideals, along with the euro as common currency, could be a formidable force in the world. But in recent years, members have failed to unite to tackle challenges that have emerged. This YaleGlobal series examines how the lack of direction inhibits their influence. A rising Asia could spur Europe to action, and in the second of two articles, François Godement, provides a comprehensive to-do list for Europe and China. The article cautions that the combined challenges of global governance, security and declining natural resources require clear thinking and policies. Uniting around a set of priorities, coordinating messages, ensuring fair representation among global institutions, a search for common values, could increase EU influence in global affairs.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/challenges-squabbling-europe-part-ii>

[HTML format, various paging].

Item#5

FEEL NO PAIN: WHY A DEFICIT IN TIMES OF HIGH UNEMPLOYMENT IS NOT A BURDEN. Center for Economic and Policy Research. Dean Baker. September 2010.

With the economy suffering from near double-digit unemployment, public debate is dominated by concerns over the budget deficit and national debt. This discussion is unfortunate both because there is no reason for people to be concerned about the deficit at present, and more importantly, because it discourages action on the unemployment crisis that is devastating the country, according to the author.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://www.cepr.net/documents/publications/deficits-2010-9.pdf>

[PDF format, 6 pages].

Item#6

FISCAL POLICY REPORT CARD ON AMERICA'S GOVERNORS: 2010. Cato Institute. Chris Edwards. September 30, 2010.

State governments have had to make tough budget choices in recent years. Tax revenues have stagnated as a result of the poor economy, and that has prompted governors to take a variety of fiscal actions to close large budget gaps. Some governors have cut spending to balance their budgets, while others have pursued large tax increases. The policy analysis examines state budget actions since 2008. It uses statistical data to grade the governors on their taxing and spending records, governors who have cut taxes and spending the most receive the highest grades, while those who have increased taxes and spending the most receive the lowest grades.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://bit.ly/cUCyUB> [PDF format, 32 pages].

Item#7

FOREIGN POLICY AND DEVELOPMENT: STRUCTURE, PROCESS, POLICY, AND THE DRIP-BY-DRIP EROSION OF USAID. Center for Strategic & International Studies. Gerald F. Hyman. September 27, 2010.

Most bilateral government donors, including the United States, are rethinking the relation between their foreign policy and their development policy. Implicit in that rethinking are the organizational forms they take and the relations between them. How independent should development be from foreign policy? Should they have separate organizations?

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

http://csis.org/files/publication/100923_Hyman_ForeignPolicyAndDevel_Web.pdf

[PDF format, 42 pages].

Item#8

FOREIGN POLICY AND THE 2010 MIDTERM ELECTIONS: TRADE. Council on Foreign Relations. Royce Wolverson. September 24, 2010.

With U.S. economic recovery still slow, trade policy looms as a factor in the congressional midterm races. The backgrounder explores the consequences for trade based on the outcome of the Democratic-Republican electoral struggle.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

http://www.cfr.org/publication/23003/foreign_policy_and_the_2010_midterm_elections.html

[HTML format, various paging].

Item#9

GLOBAL ALLIANCE FOR CLEAN COOKSTOVES: THE UNITED STATES COMMITMENT BY THE NUMBERS. U.S. Department of State. September 21, 2010.

On September 21, 2010, Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton announced the Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves, a public-private partnership led by the United Nations Foundation, which focuses on creating a thriving global market for clean and efficient household solutions. The U.S. Department of State, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), U.S. Department of Energy, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services – Centers for Disease Control and National Institutes of Health, and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), all of whom are founding partners of the Alliance, have forged an unprecedented government effort to mobilize financial resources, top-level U.S. experts, and research and development tools to help the Alliance achieve its target of ‘100 by 20,’ which calls for 100 million homes to adopt clean and efficient stoves and fuels by 2020.

Full Text:

<http://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2010/09/147494.htm> [HTML format, various paging].

<http://www.state.gov/secretary/rm/2010/09/147500.htm> Remarks by Secretary Clinton [HTML format, various paging].

Item#10

THE NEXT ECONOMY: ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND TRANSFORMATION IN THE GREAT LAKES REGION. Brookings Institution. Jennifer S. Vey et al. September 27, 2010.

As the American economy works its way slowly out of the Great Recession, a consensus is developing among public and private-sector stakeholders that simply re-constructing our old economy, one based on highly-leveraged domestic consumption, would be a serious mistake, say the authors. The nation must instead focus on building the next economy, one that is oriented towards greater exporting, powered by a low-carbon energy strategy, driven by innovation, and that creates opportunities for all.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/papers/2010/0927_great_lakes/0927_great_lakes.pdf
[PDF format, 57 pages].

Item#11

OBAMA VIEWED AS DOING BETTER THAN GOP LEADERS IN EXPLAINING VISION. Pew Research Center for the People & the Press. September 27, 2010.

With just over a month to go before the midterm elections, the public by a wide margin says Barack Obama has done a better job than Republican congressional leaders in explaining his plans and vision for the country. Half (50%) of the public says Obama has done a better job, compared with just 28% who say GOP leaders have done better in laying out their plans and vision, according to the latest poll.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://pewresearch.org/pubs/1744/congressional-connection-obama-does-better-job-on-explaining-plan-vision-than-gop-leaders>
[HTML format, various paging].

Item#12

WHY IS COLLEGE SO EXPENSIVE? National Center for Policy Analysis. Angelica Gonzalez and Courtney O'Sullivan. September 30, 2010.

Soft consumer demand in a weak economy has led many businesses to cut prices. But this is not the case in the market for higher education. Entering college freshmen and returning students face ever-higher tuition and fees. In fact, tuition at American universities has been increasing faster than inflation for the past 30 years.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://www.ncpa.org/pdfs/ba726.pdf>

[PDF format, 2 pages].